CLAIMS

1. A method of recording data on a photographic support (10), comprising the formation on the support of a plurality of encoding marks (14a, 14b), linked to a plurality of data items to be recorded, each encoding mark being formed with an exposure energy that is a preset function of a value of the data to be recorded linked to the mark, and the formation, on the same support, of at least one sensitometry control (16), the sensitometry control covering a range of exposure energies used to form the marks.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the photographic support is a film and wherein the exposure energy is light energy.

3. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the data are encoded in an encoding base with rows N, more than 3, and wherein the preset function links a different preset energy exposure value to each of the possible values of a data encoded in the base with rows N.

4. A method according to Claim 3, wherein the encoding base is a base with rows 256, and wherein 256 preset exposure values are planned for forming the marks.

5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the exposure energy of each mark is a one-to-one function of a data value to be recorded.

6. A method according to Claim 1, adapted to the recording of data on a color photographic support in which the encoding marks are exposed with an energy located in at least two separate spectral ranges of sensitivity of the support, the combination of the exposure energy of each range, and an exposure spectral range of each range, being a preset one-to-one function of a linked data value to be recorded.

7. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the data are encoded in an encoding base with rows CxN, and wherein the preset one-to-one function links a unique combination of a preset exposure energy value taken from among N and a color range taken from among C to each possible value of encoded data in the base with rows CxN.

8. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the encoding marks have an elongated barcode shape.

9. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the encoding marks (14a, 14b) and the sensitometry control (16) are formed using the same exposure source.

10. A method of reading recorded encoded data according to Claim 1, comprising, after development of the support, the establishment (34) of at least one sensitometry relation (S) from the sensitometry control (16), measurement of the optical density of the exposed encoding marks of the support, conversion of the optical density of each mark into at least one exposure energy value by using the sensitometry relation (S), and the establishment of a value of the data linked to the mark from the exposure energy and the preset function.

11. A method according to Claim 10, comprising the establishment (34) of a plurality of sensitometry relations corresponding to a plurality of spectral exposure ranges, measurement of the optical densities of the encoding marks in these spectral ranges, conversion (40) of the optical densities of each mark into several exposure energy values corresponding to the spectral ranges, and the establishment of a value of the data linked to the mark from the exposure energies and the preset function.

12. A method according to Claim 10, comprising the establishment of a sensitometry relation with several dimensions corresponding to

several color components, measurement of the optical density of the exposed marks of the support according to these color components, conversion of the optical density of each mark into exposure energy values taken according to these color components by using the sensitometry relation, and, the establishment of a value of the data linked to the mark from the exposure energy values and the preset function.

13. A photographic support (10) comprising data encoding marks (14a, 14b) with a number of density levels N more than 3, and at least one sensitometry control (16) that can be used to convert the densities of the marks into exposure energy values.